

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/052059

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06K9/50

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06K G06T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 155 072 A (KAWA RYUICHI) 15 May 1979 (1979-05-15) abstract; figures 2,4,8 column 3, line 49 - column 4, line 50 -----	1,7,12, 13
A	US 6 320 984 B1 (SHIGETA NORIMASA) 20 November 2001 (2001-11-20) abstract; claim 1; figure 3 -----	1-13
A	MARSHALL S: "Review of shape coding techniques" IMAGE AND VISION COMPUTING, UK, vol. 7, no. 4, November 1989 (1989-11), pages 281-294, XP002272602 ISSN: 0262-8856 the whole document -----	1-13

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/12/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Müller, M

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/IB2004/052059

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4155072	A	15-05-1979	JP 1122447 C	12-11-1982
			JP 53075826 A	05-07-1978
			JP 57013906 B	19-03-1982
			JP 1117836 C	15-10-1982
			JP 53079326 A	13-07-1978
			JP 56046184 B	31-10-1981
			JP 1117837 C	15-10-1982
			JP 53079327 A	13-07-1978
			JP 56046185 B	31-10-1981
			JP 1117838 C	15-10-1982
			JP 53079328 A	13-07-1978
			JP 56046186 B	31-10-1981
US 6320984	B1	20-11-2001	JP 10293852 A	04-11-1998